

THE MORNING NEWS

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Santa Rosa had spectacular first Food Festival



The Department of Agriculture, Fishery and Livestock, better known as Santa Rosa had a spectacular Food Festival

last Sunday, August 7th. This was their very first "Festival di Cuminda Crioyo" (Festival of local food). Like

all of the other events they have organized lately, this one was also a raving success!



Thousands of our citizens made their way to Santa Rosa to enjoy the vast array of different local foods... "cuminda crioyo" was in abundance!

There were 40 food stands with typical Aruban delicacies like Goat meat, stewed cucumbers, stewed papayas, different types of fish dishes, soups, with the goat soup and tutu being the most requested of all.

Cheerful music resounded with people coming and going until late into the afternoon hours. Even the Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber was present to take a dance with some of those present. This was one of the ways he chose to celebrate his birthday!

The Minister praised the Management Team for their initiative for planning the festival, which they claim is in keeping with the government's vision to give more attention to this sector of our community, to promote this area and make our people more cognizant of its importance.

What was very remarkable at this Food Festival was to see how many tourists were present at the event. This shows that such events do not only benefit our own people but also those who come here to visit us; it serves as an attraction for our visitors. This creates a unique bond between the tourist and our people.

Through this means they can learn about our culture, customs and traditions and about our local foods.

During the event a culinary competition was being held between all the participating chefs with their food stands. All the chefs were teachers at the EPI School whose food was simply succulent.

The next event, the Santa Rosa Flea market is scheduled to be held August 28th. And, they are contemplating a repeat event of last week's food festival sometime in September.

On October 30th there will be another great Open House Day at Santa Rosa, where big and small will be able to enjoy the many activities, and informative lectures on agriculture, fishery and livestock. The October 30th event will coincide with the National Nutrition Day.

There are plans for an end of the year activity... a Christmas program, which will be enjoyed by all. Information on this will be forthcoming in the upcoming weeks.

The Minister was pleased to report that because of these activities Santa Rosa's sales have increased considerably and the community has begun to show much more interest and give more importance to this aspect of our community.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Youths rampage in Manchester as UK riots spread

MANCHESTER (AFP) - Hundreds of masked youths tore through the centre of Britain's third-largest city of Manchester Tuesday, going on a looting spree as the worst riots for decades spread beyond London.

Violence erupted in Manchester, northwest England, for the first time in the four nights of rioting that have hit Britain, with a huge group of youths locked in running battles with hundreds of riot police in the city centre.

The youths smashed shop windows and went looting, setting fire to shops and hurling missiles at police.

There were also serious outbreaks of violence in Birmingham and other parts of central England, but London -- which had borne the brunt of previous violence -- was largely quiet after thou-

sands of extra police were ordered onto the streets.

In Manchester, police were driven back by gangs of hundreds of youths who covered their faces with scarves and ski masks.

Gangs smashed into shoe shops, electronics stores and clothes shops and set fire to a girls' clothing store in the city centre.

Two raiders smashed the glass entrance of the Arndale shopping centre, the city's main central shopping mall, opening the way for around 100 youths to pour into a shop before rushing out carrying clothing and shoes.

Gangs taunted the police, hurling stones and missiles at shop windows and jeering riot police, who chased them in vans.

Glen Barkworth, general manager of the Arndale, told BBC television: "All of a sudden it turned in a second

at 5:30 pm (1630 GMT) tonight."

"We've been breached on a number of occasions," he said.

"I've seen Miss Selfridge and Foot Locker both breached, looted and then torched. "What I've seen and the manner in which the rioters have split themselves into numerous groups, we're not talking about a group of 200 to 300 people doing damage. We're talking about half a dozen groups doing damage all over the centre."

"It's been a surreal day."

One Manchester resident told the BBC that looting had gone on "for hours" in the city after riot police were "driven back" by youths.

Earlier, hundreds were involved in a stand-off with riot police a few miles away at a shopping centre in the Salford area of the city, where looting also broke out.

Obama honors remains of Afghan crash dead

DOVER (AFP) - President Barack Obama made a solemn trip to a Delaware air base Tuesday to honor the remains of 30 US troops that were returned home after a helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

Obama made the unannounced visit after two C-17 military aircraft landed carrying remains of those killed Friday on a special forces mission in the deadliest single loss for US-led troops in the decade-old war.

An Afghan official said Monday the Taliban lured US forces into an elaborate trap to shoot down the Chinook helicopter, which was carrying Navy SEALs.

Despite requests from news organizations, the ceremony at Dover was closed to the media and the Pentagon has yet to release the names of those killed.

Obama lifted a blanket ban on media coverage of the return of flag-draped caskets in 2009, leaving the choice up to

families of fallen troops.

But the Pentagon said the troops killed could not be identified "due to the catastrophic nature of the crash," and that next-of-kin were not in a position to grant approval for media access to the transfer ceremony.

The toll from the attack included 22 SEALs, three US Air Force special forces, five US Army aviators, as well as seven Afghan troops and an interpreter. The cargo planes that landed in Dover also were carrying the remains of the dead Afghans, officials said.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, top military officer Admiral Mike Mullen, US Navy chief Admiral Gary Roughead and other senior officers joined Obama at the Delaware base, where dead troops from the Iraq and Afghan wars are received in a solemn "dignified transfer" ceremony.

Upon arrival at Dover, Obama was escorted to the planes containing the remains of those killed and paid "his respects," White House officials said.

He then spent more than an hour visiting with about 250 family members of the fallen troops and offered "his condolences for their loss and his deep gratitude for their sacrifice and service."

A Pentagon spokesman could not say whether the names of the troops would be released in coming days.

Brazil fears Peru traffickers may have killed natives

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Officials in Brazil said Tuesday they had no news of an isolated tribe of Amazonian natives who may have been attacked by suspected Peruvian drug traffickers, amid fears of a bloodbath.

Employees of Brazil's National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) have been searching for signs of the natives following an attack in late July on the remote Xinane guard post tasked with protecting the tribesmen near the Brazil-Peru border.

"The five employees have still not seen the natives. They fear there was a slaughter but nothing has been confirmed," a FUNAI spokeswoman in Brasilia told AFP.

"The armed men who attacked the guard post are still in the vicinity, as FUNAI employees have seen fresh footprints."

In January, Brazil allowed the release of rare photographs of the natives -- astonishing images taken by FUNAI showing adults and children peering skyward with their faces dyed reddish-orange and toting bows, arrows and spears.

FUNAI says there are dozens of tribes in Brazil that do not have sustained contact with the outside world. Some are often referred to as "un-contacted" tribes. Only 30 of them have been identified.

The Brazilian government prohibits unmonitored outside contact with these

groups, as outsiders could be infected with potentially fatal illnesses to which the natives have never been exposed.

Stephen Corry, the director of tribal rights group Survival International, lamented what he called the "extremely distressing news" about the missing natives.

THE MORNING NEWS

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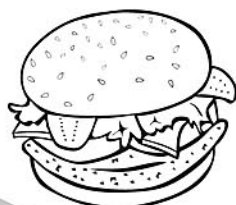
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Open letter to the minister of Health Dr. Richard Visser regarding the recognition of foreign medical degrees in Aruba

Your Excellency, Dear Richard:

I heard your interview regarding your plans to "help" Aruban studying medicine in universities outside of the Netherlands such as those in Costa Rica. I am writing to you in English because I want to make sure you understand me correctly. I didn't want anything in Dutch or even Papiamentu to get lost for whatever reason.

If I understood you correctly your plan is to have these kids complete medical school in Costa Rica and then go to Spain for a year and a half and then Holland for half a year so they can get BIG-certified. This "solution" will in my opinion place an unnecessary financial burden on some of these students. If parents cannot afford to fund housing and living expenses for 2 years - in Euro's - then your solution is not a real solution for them. If your idea is to burden them with more government funded student loans so that they can pay it themselves it seems to me that your solution is helping them create a harsh financial future in light of the increased debt service and the AZV need to ever reduce pay to the doctors in Aruba, so who knows if they will be able to pay of those debts and have a decent life after all those years of hard studying. I am not impressed so far with your "solution".

If I understood you correctly your "solution" is geared

to bring those foreign medical degrees up to par with the BIG-standards. The AZV also uses the BIG-standard to contract with doctors in Aruba. I believe both you and the AZV use this to deliver a certain (high) standard. I can follow you with that position. However where I lose you is that you allow folks in Aruba with a cold or infection or those who need to undergo a simple operation be treated by a BIG-registered doctor while you choose to send all your patients - and yes they all are your patients since you are the politically responsible minister - in need of open-heart surgery, cardiac surgery or neo-natal care to Colombia so that they can be treated by doctors who are not BIG-registered and thereby in your opinion not up to par.

This brings me to the first question I would appreciate an answer to:

Q1: How do you as minister of health allow Aruban patients to be send (by the AZV) to Colombia for treatment by non-BIG registered doctors?

Q2: If a BIG-registered doctor is the (only) standard would not all Arubans be entitled to receive care (only) by BIG-registered doctors?

Now let me get back to the "solution" you are proposing and share with you a possible legal solution. In the interview you indicated that your "solution" was great and had never been done before. It seems to be the greatest thing since sliced bread. However, it does

not offer a solution for those doctors who are already in Aruba, unless you expect these folks and their spouses and kids to go to Europe for a 2 years tour.

If you had taken a look at the law i.e. Landsverordening Uitoefening Geneeskunst, you would see that the minister of health, in this case you, can designate any foreign medical university to be recognized by and in Aruba to be at a similar standard of the BIG standard. I have not invented this. This has been done at least half a dozen times in the past going back to the 1970's. Medical schools such as: St Louis Medical University, Universidad de Madrid, Tulane and Georgetown University School of Medicine have all been recognized by Aruba by virtue of national decrees (landsbesluit) issued by the minister of health.

Procedurally it was and it still is fairly simple: a committee evaluates the institution and presents an opinion (advies) to the minister of health. The minister then assumes the political responsibility and takes a political decision - as is all decisions taken by any minister and presents it to the governor of Aruba for counter-signature. Now here is the kicker: the cost to the government is nil and this can all be done in say 4 to 8 weeks. It will resolve this longstanding issue even for those students who now just graduated this summer and those who will graduate as early as at the end

of this fall. It would allow certain general practitioners that used to practice in Aruba (huisdokter), a certain pediatrician and a well-loved gynecologist to all practice in Aruba and to serve this community. Not to mention the 70 students you mentioned from Aruba in Costa Rica most of which who are paying their education with Government issues loans.

Q3: Would you not agree with me that these students and their parents are deserving of such simple, inexpensive and effective solution?

Q4: Or do you still believe that sending the students for 2 years to Europe and spending at least 20,000 Euro's is the way to go?

I am asking you to take an executive decision in the interest of healthcare in Aruba and in the interest of generations of students to come. I think it is time for you to realize that countries can have a standard of their but that that standard does not have to be identical to the BIG standard. I think it would be your task as minister of health to establish the necessary relationships with these foreign countries and reach agreements with them accepting their standards.

Q5: Is it not time for schools like: Harvard Medical School, Tufts Medical School, and University of Miami, UCLA, UNCIMED, Universi-



Lincoln D. Gomez

dad Autónoma del Estado de México, John Hopkins University, Duke University, Stanford University and Columbia University to be recognized by Aruba laws?

Q6: Is it not time for Aruba as a member of the international community to recognize accreditation of medical schools by other authorities than the BIG?

Q7: Do you honestly believe that the authorities in the USA, Canada, Mexico and Latin-America allow doctors to practice in their countries if they do not meet a certain standard?

Q8: Have you considered that Aruba has obligation to comply with based on the Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Continued on page 8

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Fundashon Lus di Speransa plans awareness-walk

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Medicosmetics Aruba N.V.

On August 21st, with the support of Medicosmetics Aruba NV and their Seven Seas and Ensure products, the Fundashon Lus di Speransa (Light of Hope Foundation) has planned an awareness walk for everyone interested.

The Fundashon Lus di Speransa is a new foundation, just one year old whose objective is to help combat all forms of addiction, the prevention of addictions, the rehabilitation of the addicted and after care service of the addicted.

They believe that in order to help an addicted person it is important to understand what addiction is. They claim that addiction is a situation where a person is either physically or mentally dependent on a particular action or substance. This results in the person forfeiting all other types of activities in order to satisfy his need for the addiction.

Whenever we speak of addiction, most people think of drug or alcohol addictions. This type of addiction is very alarming worldwide and is a major problem here in Aruba as well. But, there are other types of addictions. There is, for example, the addiction to gambling, casino gambling,

just to mention one of the many types of addictions.

Unfortunately, we have many of the other types of addictions in our island as well.

Most of the other forms of addictions in our community are hidden because of shame by family members of the addicted. Or, perhaps the family of the addicted refuses to see the problem as one that is alarming and something to be avoided or dealt with before it causes further shame and pain.

According to the Fundashon Lus di Speransa the factors which cause a person to become addicted varies greatly. Often the root cause is a traumatic experience in early childhood that was never resolved. This, they claim causes the person to not be able to function adequately as adults. There may be mixed feelings, mixed emotions that as a child the person was not able to communicate the matter but which may surface in negative ways as an adult.

The foundation is intent on making everyone who has to deal with whatever type of addiction more aware of the problem of addictions.

Mystery woman in iconic Elvis photo identified

NEW YORK - A U.S. magazine has identified the mystery woman seen kissing singer Elvis Presley in a backstage theater stairwell in an iconic 1956 photograph.

Barbara Gray, now 75 and living in Charleston, S.C., told Vanity Fair magazine that she

didn't reveal her identity for the money or fame.

"I just wanted to get my name on the damn picture," she said.

Gray admitted that she became fed up with being known only as the "unknown woman in the wings" with a young

Elvis in a stairwell at the Mosque Theater in Richmond, Virginia.

Photographer Alfred Wertheimer said he never asked for the woman's name when he took the photograph and she never told it to him.

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ARUBA IN STYLE Fashion Week will host several Dutch artists participating in ARUBA IN STYLE/SALON



Gijs Stork with AIS founders Ronchi de Cuba and Eveline Wever

Monday's article about the collaboration between ARUBA IN STYLE and SALON Amsterdam incorrectly stated that the name for the Fashion Week had been changed to ARUBA IN STYLE/SALON; THE MORNING NEWS apologizes for the misunderstanding.

The collaboration between ARUBA IN STYLE and the founders of SALON Amsterdam, a multi-venue celebration of the culture and artistry of fashion, will include timely works by local and international artists. Those from

Aruba and South Africa were listed in our previous article; these are the Dutch artists who will be taking part in the ten-day program from November 3 to 13:

Mattijs van Bergen (fashion)
Pauline van Dongen (fashion)
EHUD (fashion)
Fantastic Man (fashion)
FreudenthalVerhagen (Photography)
Gentlewoman
Kate van Harreveld (art)
Koen Hauser (art)



Work of artist Mattijs van Bergen during a salon in Holland

Marcha Huskes (fashion)
Claes Iversen (fashion)
Bas Kusters (fashion)
Fong Leng (fashion)
Lernert & Sander (art)
Petra Lunenberg (art)
Mustafa Ozen (film)
Painted Series (fashion)
Antoine Peters (fashion)
Viviane Sassen (Photography)
Scheltens Abbenes (Photography)
Jan Taminiau (fashion)
Tesselschade Arbeid Adelt
Viktor & Rolf (fashion)

Marga Weimans (fashion)
Youasme measyou (fashion)
Hyun Yeu (fashion)
Zara Zerny (film)

The diversity of mediums deployed during the artistic interventions will provide fascinating insights into the creative process of designers and those working in the fashion industry. SALON/ARUBA will also showcase Aruban history and culture; a number of island artists besides those reported in Monday's article, are still

being recruited to participate in the upcoming event.

"Aruba will once again be handsomely showcased on a global level by the invited media and VIP visitors from North and Latin American and Europe. During this week of lifestyle tourism, high-end fashion, cultural events and artistic expositions, we expect Aruba to be the center of attention of the international press," stated the founders of ARUBA IN STYLE Fashion Week.

by Rosalie Klein

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Sci-Tech

Artificial Skin Spun from Spider Silk



Livescience

The secret to creating artificial skin might be spider silk, researchers now suggest.

Skin grafts are vital for treating burn victims and other patients. For instance, chronic wounds such as bedsores in hospitalized patients afflict 6.5 million in the United States alone for estimated costs of \$25 billion annually.

Instead of using skin from a body for a graft, scientists are investigating artificial skin. Ideally such a graft would be of a material tolerated by the body, have skin cells embedded within it to replace lost tissue, degrade safely over time as the new skin grows in and be strong

enough to withstand all the rigors ordinary skin experiences. Materials investigated until now did not seem strong enough for the task, said tissue engineer Hanna Wendt at Medical School Hannover in Germany.

Now Wendt and her colleagues suggest silk might be up for the job.

Spider silk is the toughest known natural material. Moreover, there is a body of folklore dating back at least 2,000 years regarding the potential medical value of webs — for instance, in fighting infections, stemming bleeding, healing wounds and serving as artificial ligaments.

The extraordinary strength and stretchiness of spider silk "are important factors for easy handling and transfer of many kinds of implants," Wendt said. In addition, unlike silk from silkworms, that from spiders apparently does not trigger the body's rejection reactions.

To test spider silk's usefulness, first Wendt and her colleagues essentially milked golden silk orb-weaver spiders by stroking their silk glands and spooling up the

silk fibers that came out. They next wove meshes from this silk onto steel frames. [See images of skin cells growing]

The researchers found that human skin cells placed on these meshes could flourish, given proper nurturing with nutrients, warmth and air. They were able to cultivate the two main skin cell types, keratinocytes and fibroblasts, into tissue-like patterns resembling epidermis, the outermost layer of skin, and dermis, the layer of living tissue below the epidermis that contains blood capillaries, nerve endings, sweat glands, hair follicles and other structures.

Currently, harvesting large amounts of spider silk for industrial standards is not practical. "I think in the long term, for widespread daily clinical use, synthetic silk fibers providing the same mechanical- and cell culture-properties will be needed," Wendt said. Currently, many research groups are investigating ways to grow synthetic spider silk.

Tsunami caused Manhattan-sized iceberg in Antarctica

ANTARTICA (AFP)--The tsunami that struck Japan on March 11 propagated waves that hit an ice shelf in Antarctica 13,000 kilometres (8,100 miles) away, smashing parts of it into huge icebergs, the European Space Agency (ESA) said on Tuesday.

On March 12, ESA's Envisat Earth-monitoring satellite spotted icebergs that had broken from the Sulzberger ice shelf, and on March 16, the pieces were seen floating into the Ross Sea, it said.

The largest berg measured about 9.5 kms (5.9 miles) by 6.5 kms (four miles), making it slightly bigger in surface area than Manhattan, and had a likely depth of about 80 metres (260 feet).

The tsunami was at least 23 metres (76 feet) high after it had been generated by an underwater quake of 9.0 magnitude, according to Japanese estimates published a week after the event.

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'Green hunger' as starvation stalks fertile Guatemala



JALAPA (AFP) - They call it the "green hunger." Here in the mountains of central Guatemala, one of the world's top exporters of sugar and bananas, vegetation is everywhere and yet the people are starving.

Guatemala, which has a population of 14 million, has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Latin America. Half of all children under five are malnourished.

In rural areas such as Jalapa, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) or a three-hour drive from Guatemala City, where many families scrape by on less than a dollar a day, that figure can rise shockingly to as high as 90 percent.

Luis Alexander is nine months old and suffers from acute malnutrition. He appears weak and tiny in his mother's arms in front of their mud-brick house.

Ronald Estuardo Navas, a hunger monitor at the international non-profit Action Against Hunger, measures Luis's arm with a tape that evaluates the nutritional health of a child via the size of the upper arm.

"He has a perimeter of 9.9 centimeters -- there's a high risk he could die," he said.

His mother, Herlinda Ro-

driguez, who has two other children to care for, is also undernourished.

Looking around the green and mountainous land surrounding the Rodriguez family's humble home, it's hard to understand why they are slowly starving.

Guatemala is the world's fifth largest exporter of sugar, coffee and bananas, and when subsistence crops fail thousands of families simply cannot afford to buy enough food.

Many families have had to resort to buying their basic staples of corn and beans and rice from local markets because their modest subsistence crops have been seriously reduced by droughts and floods over the last few years -- the creeping effect of climate change across this region.

More than 6,500 people died from hunger related issues last year, 2,175 of whom were under five years, according to Luis Enrique Monteroso, who oversees the right to food at the Guatemala Human Rights Office.

Malnutrition doesn't stunt just physical, but also mental, development in children, which does not bode well for Guatemala's future economic development.

US researchers find another flu antibody

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US scientists have found an antibody that acts against 30 of 36 strains of influenza, the latest discovery in the hunt for a universal treatment and a vaccine, said a study published Monday.

The new broadly neutralizing antibody, called CH65, can stick to the surface part of the flu virus known as hemagglutinin which mutates every season, forcing medical experts to regularly come up with a new vaccine.

It was found in cells from a human volunteer who was given the flu vaccine for 2007, said the study in the Proceedings of the National



academy of Sciences.

"What this tells us is that the human immune system can fine-tune its response to the flu and actually produce, albeit at a low frequency, antibodies that neutralize a whole series of strains," said lead author Stephen Harrison of Children's Hospital Boston.

"Our goal is to understand how the immune system selects for antibodies and use that information to get better at making a vaccine that will take you in a direction that favors breadth over specificity."

Last week, researchers in Britain and Switzerland reported in the US journal Science that they had found the first human antibody that can knock out all influenza A viruses.

That antibody, FI6, was tested in all 16 subtypes of A flu viruses and consistently worked against the often-changing hemagglutinin, the protein that is on the virus's surface.

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Open letter to the minister of Health...

Continued from page 3

While I am at it:

Q9: Why did you sign an MOU with Baptist Medical from Florida, USA to help with the management of IMSAN when not one of their doctors are BIG-certified and you fail to recognize all medical universities of the great State of Florida?

It is not my intention to bust your chops with this open letter but I hope that you will take due note of this open letter and take action. I have no vested interest in the matter. I am neither studying

medicine nor do are my children or any relative for that matter studying medicine outside of the Netherlands, but as a part of this community I feel it is my responsibility to contribute with the skills and knowledge that I have been given for a better Aruba. We need the young talent studying in Costa Rica and elsewhere to come back and take care of the health of our children, our parent and all of us. You (and your advisors) might very well think that I am not deserving of an

answer to this open letter but I surely believe that those 70 students and their parents for sure are deserving of an answer but are also deserving of your executive action to resolve the issues that they are being confronted with.

I wish you wisdom and success in resolving this issue. If I can help in anyway just let me know.

Very truly yours,

Lincoln D. Gomez
Lincoln@gobiklaw.com

Introducing the Chevy Captiva 2012



One of the most short-lived re-designs to ever hit the market, the second-generation Saturn Vue lasted for just two model years before General Motors pulled the plug on the brand entirely. Looking to help pay for the development of the Vue, GM has announced that the small crossover will return – as a fleet-only Chevrolet Captiva Sport.

Chevrolet will begin offering the Captiva Sport in the fourth quarter of 2011 as a 2012 model. Chevy also points out that the Captiva Sport will be unique to the U.S. market, and differs in design from the most recently revealed European Captiva.

Fleets will be able to order the Captiva Sport in three flavors, LS, LT and all-wheel drive LTZ, and with two engines. The entry-level LS model will come with a 2.4-liter Ecotec four-cylinder engine, while the uplevel LT and LTZ models will feature a 3.0-liter V6 offering – both come matched to a six-speed automatic transmission exclu-

sively.

All models feature 17-inch aluminum wheels, XM Satellite Radio, six-speaker sound system, four-wheel disc brakes with antilock, traction control, StabiliTrak electronic stability control, air conditioning, power locks and windows (with driver's express down) and remote keyless entry. For fleets opting for the LT and LTZ, those crossovers will gain dual exhaust along with the V6 engine, OnStar and Bluetooth as standard.

Options include a rear-view camera and leather trim, including heated front seat, which come standard on the LTZ and are optional on other models.

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Diyanel Gardona is the lucky winner of a brand new motorcycle from La Estrella



ORANJESTAD -- Recently, Diyanel Gardona applied for a loan at La Estrella, where she received the royal treatment and her loan application was quickly approved. La Estrella was also conducting a special campaign where customers could win a motorcycle and lucky Diyanel took a chance.

La Estrella has more than 10 years experience in offering island residents A-1 service for loans on their possessions or selling their jewelry, to a company they know exemplifies integrity and fair rates. Situated in the Layex Building in Oranjestad, La Estrella is known for prompt, efficient service and graciously serving the Aruban community; discretion guaranteed.

La Estrella also conducts monthly campaigns, so their many satisfied customers are winners in more ways than one!

Photos show Diyanel Gardona receiving the keys to her brand new motorcycle and proudly showing off her wonderful prize.



COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

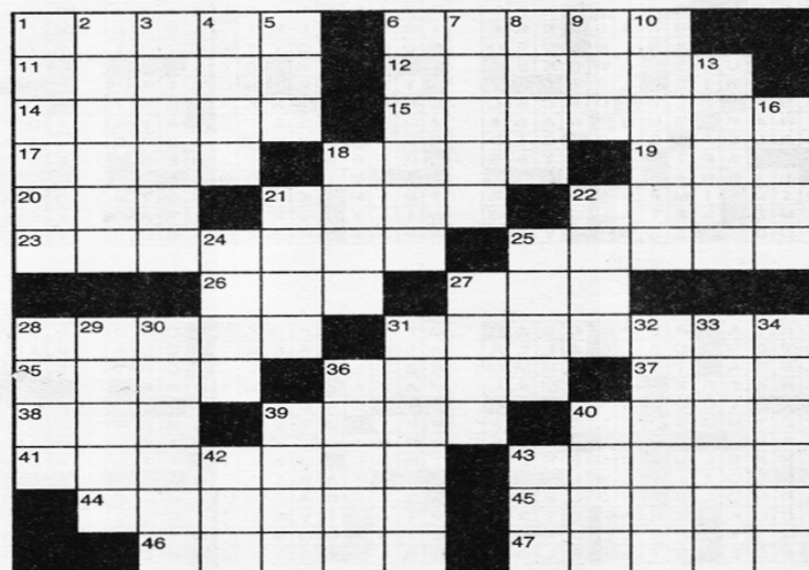
1. Singer Kate
6. Sweetened the pot
11. Choir singer
12. Knocked down pins
14. Talks wildly
15. One who is inducted
17. Senses of self
18. Channels
19. Play segment
20. Scared one's shout
21. Johann Sebastian
22. Slanderer
23. Rule of conduct
25. Agnes de
26. "___ It Be" (Beatles song)
27. Diamond, e.g.
28. Apple beverage
31. "___ and the Forty Thieves" (2 wds.)
35. Starting with (2 wds.)
36. Plot
37. Blank space
38. ___ Paulo, Brazil
39. Hairless
40. Door-to-door vehicle
41. Polliwog

DOWN

43. "I've ___ Be Me"
44. Art of "The Honey-mooners"
45. Anesthetic of the past
46. Color changers
47. Weepy
1. "Adaptation" actress
2. Scanty
3. Call on, as in prayer
4. Sock ends
5. Day's 24 (abbr.)
6. Seize
7. Map direction
8. "___ the night before..."
9. Pixie
10. Small item
13. Iron-on picture
16. To be (Fr.)
18. Attentive
21. Budweiser, for one
22. Branch
24. Musical sign
25. Chicken chow
27. Trash bag brand
28. "___ Away" (2000 film)
29. Violinist Stern
30. Thingamabob
31. Narrow passage-

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Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	8	1	4	6	2	9	9	8
2	6	7	8	9	9	1	2	8
8	9	9	1	8	2	6	7	
1	2	6	9	7	8	2	9	
9	8	2	1	6	8	7	2	
4	2	8	9	2	8	6	1	9
6	8	9	2	7	9	8	1	
8	1	2	6	9	9	7	8	2
9	7	2	8	8	1	2	9	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Fed vows low rates for two more years

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Federal Reserve pledged Tuesday to hold interest rates near zero for two more years and said it was mulling the tools it has to boost a slowing economy.

Meeting as worries grew of a new recession, the Fed's policy board said growth so far this year had been "considerably slower" than expected.

It maintained its key interest rate at the ultra-low level of 0-0.25 percent and vowed to keep "exceptionally low" rates "at least through mid-2013."

"Downside risks to the economic outlook have increased," the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) said after a one-day meeting.

US stock markets, hoping to sustain a rebound from Monday's 5 percent-plus plunge, were slightly lower on the news.

The signal of a concrete period for the low rate was a shift from earlier FOMC statements, which suggested only that the rate would be held for "an extended period."

Analysts said before the meeting that a move like that would be a signal that the Fed wants to continue stimulating the weak economy.

Meeting for the first time since its "QE2" asset purchase program ended in June, the Fed is seen as having few options to overcome stagnating growth and the growing pessimism that sent stock markets on their deepest plunge since

the crisis of 2008.

The Fed said it now expects growth at a "somewhat slower pace" over the coming quarters than it had estimated in June.

But it did make no suggestion that it was considering a successor to its "QE" or "quantitative easing" program to boost the economy; only that the meeting "discussed the range of policy tools available" to promote growth.

After the economy grew at around a one percent pace in the first half, US officials are fending off suggestions of a "double-dip" recession, two years after the 19-month "Great Recession" ended in June 2009.

Goldman Sachs estimated last week that there was a one-in-three chance of returning to negative growth in the coming quarters.

That has put pressure on

the Fed to adopt a new stimulus program after the expiration of the \$600 billion QE2, though many doubt that more liquidity in the system will help.

In the first half of the year, the FOMC was divided between a majority who believed the economy remained soft, and a minority who believed the economy was gaining steam and faced a burst of easy money-induced inflation.

But after growth in the second quarter proved to be nearly stagnant, and inflation fell, in July Fed chairman Ben Bernanke told a congressional panel that more stimulus could be merited.

The FOMC statement Tuesday made clear the central bank is no longer concerned about inflation, predicting that it "will settle" over the coming quarters.

Oil prices fall after Fed lowers growth outlook

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices tumbled again Tuesday after the Federal Reserve said it would keep interest rates exceptionally low for another two years to help prop up slower than expected US economic growth.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate light, sweet crude for delivery in September, closed at \$79.30 a barrel, down \$2.01 from Monday's closing level.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for September shed \$1.17 to settle at \$102.57 a barrel. Earlier, it had slid to \$98.76, its lowest level since February 8.

Oil prices, which had fallen more than five percent Monday after rating agency Standard & Poor's downgraded US credit, roiling global markets, extended their nose-dive after the Fed issued a downbeat view of the world's largest economy.

Economic growth so far this year has been "consider-

ably slower" than expected and "downside risks to the economic outlook have increased," the policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee said in a statement after a one-day meeting in Washington.

The FOMC kept its key interest rate unchanged near zero and said that economic conditions were likely to warrant "exceptionally low" rates "at least through mid-2013."

The statement reinforced market worries that growth is sputtering in the United States, the world's largest oil consumer, which could result in reduced demand.

The Fed outlook came after the US government reported two weeks ago that gross domestic product, the broad measure of economic activity, had nearly stalled in the first half of the year.

Oil prices had rebounded through much of the day's trading before the Fed announcement.

Trichet calls on eurozone govts to do their 'duty'

PARIS (AFP) European Central Bank chief Jean-Claude Trichet on Tuesday called on European governments, notably Italy and Spain, to "do their duty" in reducing public deficits and stabilising their finances.

"In sum, since the fall of Lehman Brothers, this is the worst crisis since the Second World War," Trichet warned on Europe 1 radio, referring to the collapse of the US investment bank in September 2008 that triggered a global financial crisis.

In this context "we expect governments to do what we consider to be their work, their duty," Trichet said.

"We have asked European governments as a whole, 17 of them, to speed up the decisions taken on July 21 during a eurozone (summit) meeting," he added.

The European Central Bank said Monday it would resume purchases of eurozone

government bonds so as to ease the pressure on the weakest, notably Italy and Spain, whose borrowing costs soared to unsustainable levels in recent weeks.

On Tuesday, the pressure eased further on Italian and Spanish bonds but stock markets globally were down very sharply, reflecting growing nervousness over the economic outlook as a litany of bad news continued to pour in.

Trichet said governments should put the decisions taken at last month's eurozone summit into action "as quickly as possible."

US stocks in solid rebound, Dow up nearly 4%

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks rebounded strongly Tuesday, with the Dow jumping nearly four percent after plummeting Monday on the shock of Standard & Poor's downgrade of the US credit rating.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average of 30 blue-chip stocks added 429.92 points, or 3.98 percent, to 11,239.77.

The broader S&P 500 climbed 53.07 points (4.74 percent), at 1,172.53, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq jumped 124.83 points (5.29 percent) at 2,482.52.

The rebound came after the markets had their worst day Monday since the 2008 financial collapse: the Dow lost 5.6 percent, the S&P 500 6.7 percent, and the Nasdaq 6.9 percent.

The surge came in the last hour, with the Dow 150 points in negative territory 45 minutes before the close.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

L	A	I	T	A	M	O	S	P	U	B
B	L	A	H	M	A	R	K	I	S	A
J	I	M	I	N	Y	C	R	I	C	K
C	O	S	L	E	E	R	S			
P	E	R	K	S	W	I	L	D	S	
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E	E	E	R	I	S	E	S	I	A	M
A	D	S	S	P	E	W	A	P	T	S





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Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest



Gold Coast entrance

Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their

own home in Aruba will eventually be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and spectacular facilities by the end of 2011. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the management association's rental service,



There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, making it easy for some owners to earn their mortgage payments or others to see an immediate return on their investment.

The design of the structures is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their

homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour

security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Grandma's stoba with classic rice and beans and homemade potato beet salad

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!

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Madonna's Malawian school a barren field of failed dreams

CHINKOTA (AFP) - The abandoned site looks more like a quarried mine than a pop superstar's multi-million-dollar dream to groom girls into Malawi's next leaders and doctors.

But the bleak, levelled terraces of gravelly sand near Malawi's capital are the only evidence of Madonna's \$15 million (10.6 million euros) academy that was ditched in a cloud over misused funds and disgruntled locals.

"This has just become a football ground now," said local chief Binson Kalenga.

The bulldozers are long silent where Madonna -- who adopted two children from Malawi -- laid a foundation

stone engraved "dare to dream" in April 2010, in a simple village in a desperately poor African country that many could not find on a map.

A year later the school had been called off. The star is being sued by employees who were fired, her charity is tied up in a US tax investigation, and Malawi is investigating how the land was paid for.

"There was just too much publicity before there was any work on the ground," said Lilongwe district commissioner Paul Kalilombe.

Madonna's charities did not reply to queries. In January, she said the academy project was off in favour of helping

existing schools across the country.

But The New York Times then reported on an audit, ordered by Madonna, that found \$3.8 million squandered on the discarded academy.

The audit reportedly found a "startling lack of accountability" on the management team in Malawi and the United States.

Unhappiness here began with payments to villagers for the land, which Madonna's charity Raising Malawi paid through the government.

The star's last word was in April when she said a new strategy would be announced in coming weeks.

Michael Jackson's children deliver art by late singer



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The children of the late "King of Pop" Michael Jackson delivered 10 pieces of art by their famous father to the Los Angeles Children's Hospital on Monday. The artwork was donated by Brett-Livingstone Strong, an artist and friend of the Jackson family, who had them in his private collection.

Kutcher starts on 'Two And A Half Men' TV show

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Ashton Kutcher has moved into the star role on the hit US television series "Two and a Half Men" -- and US celebrity media revealed Monday how Charlie Sheen's character dies in the show.

Kutcher joined the cast after Sheen was famously fired from the show in March for slamming its producers in outbursts.

Sheen's character, jingle writer Charlie Harper, "slips" in the Paris subway soon after he was caught cheating on his wife right after their wedding, is hit by a train and dies in a "meat explosion," according to entertainment website TMZ.com.

Kutcher, 33, agreed to join the cast in May and enters the



"Two and a Half Men"-cast

show ensemble as a broken-hearted Internet billionaire.

"Two and a Half Men" has been a hit since it was launched in 2003 and has been nominated for numerous awards, including nods for Sheen at the Emmys and Golden Globes.

Kutcher rose to fame as the handsome, dim-witted Michael Kelso in the TV comedy "That 70s Show."



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US swimmer ends Cuba-to-Florida bid

MIAMI (AFP) - A 61-year-old US distance swimmer said Tuesday she had ended her bid to cross the shark-infested waters from Cuba to Florida at about the halfway mark after suffering from shoulder pain and asthma.

Ocean swells also dogged Diana Nyad on her second attempt to swim the 100 miles (161 kilometers) across the treacherous Florida Straits before she was finally brought aboard a boat, vomiting, at about 12:45 am, CNN reported.

But the swimmer, who had said she hoped to bring Cuba and the United States closer together with the athletic feat, said she did not regret trying.

"It felt like this was my moment. I don't feel like a failure at all. But we needed a little more luck," Nyad said in a Twitter post.

"It's hard because I felt

like I had it in me."

Nyad began her attempt late Sunday to make the difficult crossing. Had she succeeded, she would have been the first person to have done so without a shark cage.

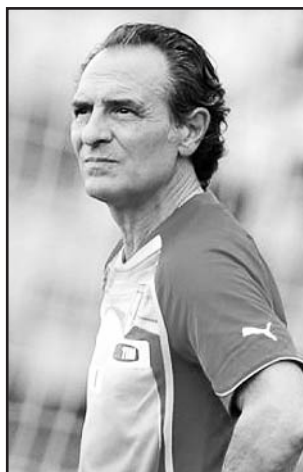
But just three hours after she started the swim, she was battling shoulder pain. She then said she was having trouble breathing about 12 hours later.

Shortly before abandoning her effort, Nyad was only able to swim three or four strokes before rolling onto her back to catch her breath. At the 29-hour mark, she called it quits.

"Asthma took so much out of me," she told CNN. "I couldn't overcome it... the asthma really shafted me."

"I just knew it wasn't mind over matter anymore. I was absolutely spent," she said. Nyad arrived in Florida on Tuesday by boat.

Prandelli looking to faze Spaniards



ROME (AFP) - Italy coach Cesare Prandelli has decided to play without an out-and-out striker in the hope of taking Spain out of their comfort zone in Bari today.

The 2006 world champions host the team that succeeded them in South Africa last year in a mouth-watering friendly clash.

And Prandelli sprung a surprise by picking a team with two deep-lying forwards but no traditional number nine striker and no wingers.

AC Milan's Antonio Cassano will partner Villarreal's Giuseppe Rossi up front.

"This way, with Cassano next to Rossi we won't give our opponents a point of reference compared to what we would have done with a centre-forward such as (Gimpaolo) Pazzini.

"Given that we don't have wingers, instead we want to make the most of our central midfielders' ability to get in behind the defence.

"Antonio knows at this time it's an important match in front of his people (he's from Bari)."

When Italy last played in Bari, then coach Marcello Lippi was roundly jeered for not having even picked Cassano in his squad.

Cassano may well be more deserving of a place in the team now than he was then but Prandelli shied away from joining Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas in describing the 28-year-old as a phenomenon.

"Players are generous in their comparisons. A phenomenon is someone who makes a difference for 10 years," said Prandelli.

"Then there are players who get described as a phenomenon because with one touch they can decide a match."

Prandelli acknowledged that Spain are the favourites given their recent record and fluidity in playing together, but he insisted his team would at least keep things competitive.



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Strauss says Test can give riot-hit England a lift

BIRMINGHAM (AFP) - England captain Andrew Strauss insisted he had no qualms about playing the third Test against India at Edgbaston following a night of rioting in Birmingham as the police officer overseeing the match said it was still going ahead.

Players from both sides opted to remain in their hotels as rioters and looters took to the streets of England's 'second city' on Monday, and were advised to do so again after training on Tuesday following several days' of similar disorder in London.

The Football Association reacted by calling off England's international friendly against the Netherlands, scheduled for Wednesday at Wembley Stadium in north London.

But Strauss, who said England's security manager had told them it was "100 percent safe" for them to play the third Test, was keen the match at Warwickshire's headquarters should start as scheduled on Wednesday.

"Let's divorce the cricket match from what is going on in the country which is clearly not our proudest hour as a country right at the moment," Strauss told reporters here at Edgbaston on Tuesday.

"I think this is an opportunity for cricket to maybe put

a feelgood factor into the newspapers and show that not everything is bad out there at the moment.

"It hasn't really affected our preparation," he added. "When you watch these scenes on the television, it's horrific and it's far from England's proudest moment. But we fully intend to play the game as we would any other game."

However, while providing security for players in the controlled environment of a cricket ground during daylight hours is one thing, concerns have been raised about the safety of spectators travelling to and from the ground.

But in a statement issued later Tuesday, Inspector Howard Lewis Jones, the designated police match commander at Edgbaston, said: "A lot of planning and preparation has gone into this event."

"We have worked very closely with the club (Warwickshire) and police resources have been set accordingly."

"The Test Match will not take away resources from policing the wider Birmingham area," added Lewis Jones on a day where violence spread to the nearby town of West Bromwich.


West Midlands police recognise the importance of this event and the spectators will be looking forward to this match."

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Anderson crushes Murray dream of title hat-trick



MONTREAL (AFP) - Andy Murray saw his bid for a third

straight ATP Masters title in Canada crushed by Kevin Anderson on Tuesday as the South African defeated Britain's world number four 6-3, 6-1 in a second-round match.

Murray, winner of the last two editions of the event that alternates between Montreal and Toronto, was bundled out in 69 minutes.

Murray was playing his first competitive match since leading Great Britain to an emotional Davis Cup win over Luxembourg on July 10 in his native Scotland.

Murray had had a first round bye courtesy of his seeding while Anderson - ranked 35 in the world - had breezed through against Spaniard Pablo Andujar in the first round.

Although Anderson served just five aces, Murray's lack of recent competition showed as he started flat and was broken four times to start his US Open build-up on the worst possible note.

Murray's previous worst defeat in Canada was a 2007 Montreal loss to Italian Fabio Fognini in the second round after winning a first-round encounter.

Murray, who had hoped to kick-start his summer after several weeks of gruelling preparation in Miami, remained baffled by his failure to fire when it mattered.

"I just felt very slow, the game seemed to be going so fast," he said. "It's happened to me already once this year.

"I've trained really hard to get ready for the tournament. I've always played very well here.

"Today I couldn't get anything going. I started both sets really, really badly which doesn't help against someone that serves like Kevin.

Murray, who took an 18-3 Canadian win-loss record into the match, had been aiming to become the first player to win three titles in a row in Canada since Ivan Lendl from 1987-1989.

Success and long putter give Scott major confidence



Adam Scott of Australia signs autographs near the 18th green during a practice round

ATLANTA (AFP) - Using a long putter that he once would have dismissed as a desperate gimmick, Australian Adam Scott has revived his game and served notice he will be a threat to win the 93rd PGA Championship.

The 31-year-old won last week's World Golf Championships event and shared second at the Masters at Augusta last April, each time producing stellar Sunday performances that took his confidence to new heights.

"Just playing well on the back nine Sunday at the Masters was the thing that kind of pushed the belief forward," Scott said. "I didn't win the Masters but I felt like I did everything I had to do.

"Then I did it again this Sunday. I felt like I played really well on the back nine at the right time in a big tournament. Those are big things for your confidence that really help you believe that you can win a major championship."

To help produce that major breakthrough, Scott added a fiery new caddie in Steve Williams, fired last month by Tiger Woods.

But even before that came a switch to a long putter, a move made after early season struggles in January on greens in Hawaii convinced him he needed a change.

"I probably was one of those people who thought the long putter should be banned," Scott said. "But it's

not so I don't really worry about it. It's within the rules at the moment, and I'm very happy about that.

"I lost my rhythm quickly when I was in Hawaii with the putting. Frustrating. One day it's there and the next day it's not and that's kind of how the whole of 2010 went."

His coach bought a long putter, prompted Scott to try it, and Scott the putting touch he had been missing.

"A week or so in, it was feeling really good," Scott said. "After about three weeks we decided this is it, I'm going to go with the long putter because it just really gave me that awareness of how a putter should swing again."

A choice of last resort became the key to success,

"I guess it is considered kind of a last resort," Scott said. "I was very frustrated and I hadn't thought about it.

I'm not too sure where I go from here if this doesn't pan out for me."

Better putting has taken the pressure off other areas of Scott's game, his drives and short game.

"Absolutely it puts so much pressure on the rest of your game and I felt like the rest of my game was in good shape but I couldn't let it all happen, because I wasn't able to play freely, because the putting was so inconsistent," Scott said.

"This has absolutely freed up the rest of my game.

"I feel like I can fall back on my putting if the long game is not there that day and if it is there, I can really take advantage of it."

Scott, who is bidding to become the first Australian since Steve Elkington 16 years ago to win the PGA Championship, tries not to beat himself up about missed opportunities, hopeful that his 30s will finally produce a major title he missed as a "young gun" in his roaring 20s.

"If I was being a harsh critic of myself, I could say I've underachieved," Scott said.

"I feel like sometimes I play as good as anyone, and it's never been at the biggest tournaments, and that's really what I tried to change this year. I felt like my game had really taken some big steps last year.

"I feel it's maybe more of a maturity of my game or my outlook even."

MLB Standings

American League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	71	43	.623	--
NY YANKEES	69	44	.611	1.5
TAMPA	60	54	.526	11.0
TORONTO	58	56	.509	13.0
BALTIMORE	44	68	.393	26.0
Central				
DETROIT	61	53	.535	--
CLEVELAND	56	56	.500	4.0
CHICAGO	56	58	.491	5.0
MINNESOTA	51	64	.443	10.5
KANSAS	49	66	.426	12.5
West				
TEXAS	65	51	.560	--
LA ANGELES	63	52	.548	1.5
OAKLAND	51	63	.447	13.0
SEATTLE	49	65	.430	15.0

National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB
PHILADELPHIA	75	40	.652	--
ATLANTA	67	49	.578	8.5
NY METS	57	57	.500	17.5
WASHINGTON	55	59	.482	19.5
FLORIDA	55	60	.478	20.0
Central				
MILWAUKEE	65	50	.565	--
ST. LOUIS	62	53	.539	3.0
PITTSBURG	55	59	.482	9.5
CINCINNATI	55	60	.478	10.0
CHICAGO	49	66	.426	16.0
HOUSTON	38	77	.330	27
West				
SAN FRANCISCO	63	53	.543	--
ARIZONA	62	53	.539	0.5
COLORADO	54	62	.466	9.0
LA DODGERS	52	62	.456	10.0
SAN DIEGO	51	65	.440	12.0

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Bubba hopes to end US major drought



ATLANTA (AFP) - Americans have gone a record six major golf tournaments without capturing a title, a streak Bubba Watson hopes to end come Sunday at the 93rd PGA Championship.

The long-driving left-hander lost last year's PGA Championship in a playoff to Germany's Martin Kaymer, but put himself into contention for his first major crown and followed up that effort with two triumphs already this year.

"I've learned that it's hard work to win golf tourna-

ments," Watson said. "To do the things I want in my career, it's going to take a lot of sweat and tears and a lot of energy."

"That's what I'm learning this year and it was overwhelming at times. It feels like I'm sick. It feels like I don't want to get out of bed because I've grinded so much. It just showed me how much hard work it is to lift the trophy. It takes a lot out of you."

No US player has won a major since Phil Mickelson at last year's Masters and Watson says the global growth of the game is great for the sport.

"Most of them have a house in the US anyway. They are just better than us right now," Watson said.

"It's sad that we keep putting these flags on everybody. I'm 15th in the world ranking right now. There's 14 guys ahead of me. I couldn't care less where they are from. I don't care what flag they have by them."

"I'm trying to get to No. 1 in the world. Who cares where they are from or what language they speak? The language they speak is they are beating me at golf."

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BMC sign world champion Hushovd

PARIS (AFP) - Norway's world road race cycling champion Thor Hushovd will race for American team BMC next year after he signed a two-year contract with them on Tuesday, the Americans announced on their website.

The 33-year-old two-time Tour de France green jersey winner (2005 and 2009) is coming off an excellent Tour de France where riding for

Garmin-Cervelo he won two stages and wore the overall leader's yellow jersey for seven days.

Hushovd, who spent the majority of his professional career with the Credit Agricole team, said he had been impressed by the clear strategy the team had and hoped it would also allow him to achieve his dream of winning

the Paris Roubaix classic.

"It's a serious team where it looks like everything is well-organized," he said.

"There's a plan put together for the riders for all the big and important races. Everyone knows what to do. That's a good thing."

"My biggest goal is still to win Paris-Roubaix."

Colombia coach resigns after assaulting woman

BOGOTA (AFP) - Colombia coach Hernan Dario Gomez has resigned after assaulting a woman outside a bar last Saturday, the Colombian Football Federation said on Tuesday.

The Federation announced in an official statement that "an extraordinary meeting" will be held in the next ten days as they decide where to go from here, and that, "for the moment, the national team will not have a coach."

On Monday, Gomez publicly apologized after local press reports that he had hit out twice at a woman who had insulted him.

"Following what happened on Saturday evening, which has left me feeling mortified, I would like to say publicly that I am profoundly sorry for having lost control in the way I did," he said.

"It shames me in front of my mother, my wife and every single woman in my

family and in my country," he went on, without discussing the incident itself.

Gomez had been working as an observer for FIFA at the under-20 World Cup, which is currently being held in the South American country.

He led Colombia to the quarter-finals of the recent Copa America, where they lost to Peru, and also took Ecuador to the World Cup finals for the first time in their history in 2002.